



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF LICENSING

**GEOLOGIST LICENSING BOARD
DRAFT MINUTES
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

DATE: September 30, 2014

TIME: 9:00 AM

LOCATION: Whitman College
Reid Campus Center, Room 240
280 Boyer Avenue
Walla Walla, WA 99362

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Brian Beaman, EG, HG; Chair
Robert Mitchell, HG; Vice-Chair
Bill Laprade, EG; Secretary
Dave Norman, EG, HG; Member
William Ernst, LG; Member
Gene St. Godard, HG; Member

STAFF PRESENT: Lorin Doyle, Administrator
Julia Gambrel, Licensing Manager
Autumn Dryden, Administrative Assistant

1. Call to Order 9:00AM

1.1. Introduction of visitors

No visitors were present for the business meeting.

1.2. Order of agenda

The order of the agenda was amended as follows:

- Item 5.1.2, case number 2014-07-1100-00GEO, was added
- Item 3, a discussion of ethics in the industry was added
- The rules workshop was tabled

Mr. St. Godard made a MOTION to accept the agenda as amended. Mr. Ernst seconded the MOTION and it passed.

- 1.3. Approval of minutes: June 3, 2014
Mr. Ernst made a MOTION to accept the minutes as presented. Mr. Laprade seconded the MOTION and it passed.

- 1.4. Review communications
No business.

2. Public Comment Opportunity

- 2.1. Meet with students in Science Building at 12PM
The board and staff met with geology students and answered questions on the board's role in regulating the profession and the licensing application process.
- 2.2. Individual reports:
 - 2.2.1. Mr. Mitchell, speaking as a licensee and not a board member, shared a budget proposal by Western Washington University for an engineering geologist degree program.
 - 2.2.2. Mr. St. Godard, speaking as a licensee and not a board member, updated the board on possible legislation to amend RCW 18.104.180 to allow licensed geologists to drill wells.

3. New Business

No business.

4. Old Business

- 4.1. Review master action items list
The master action items list was reviewed.

Action Item: Ms. Dryden will schedule a review of the hydrogeology specialty exam for Mr. Mitchell, Mr. St. Godard, and Mr. Norman.

- 4.2. National requirements research
This agenda item was tabled as part of the rules workshop. However board members reviewed the report and asked for the following changes.

Action item: Staff will research Idaho's relationship to California's exams, as identified by the report.

Action item: Staff will add Washington's requirements to the report.

5. Complaint Cases for Review

- 5.1. 2014-05-1100-00GEO (St. Godard)
Mr. St. Godard presented a case alleging the unlicensed practice of geology. He recommended the case be closed with no further action due to a lack of evidence of a violation of law or rule. Mr. Ernst made a MOTION to accept this recommendation. Mr. Mitchell seconded the MOTION and it passed.

5.2. 2014-07-1100-00GEO (Laprade)

Mr. Laprade presented a case alleging the unlicensed practice of engineering geology. He recommended the case be closed with no further action because the respondent complied. Mr. Ernst made a MOTION to accept this recommendation. Mr. St. Godard seconded the MOTION and it passed.

6. Legal Issues for Deliberation*

No business.

7. Disciplinary and Investigation Reports

The board held a discussion about ethics in the profession and what constitutes unprofessional conduct. For example, would a disgruntled employee slandering a former employer be considered unprofessional conduct? Board staff advised that it is difficult to prosecute for this type of conduct alone, but it can be considered an aggravating factor when combined with another charge. When reviewing cases, the board ultimately needs to consider whether or not the public's health, safety, and/or welfare were harmed.

7.1. Closed session deliberation report (only necessary if closed session is held)

No business.

7.2. Disciplinary cases report

Packet item

Action Item: Staff will add license revocations to the report.

7.3. Administrative closure report

Packet item; no action.

8. Assistant Attorney General's Report

Staff informed the board they have a new prosecutor, Rania Rampersad, and a new advisor, Eric Sonju.

9. Committee/Task Force Reports

9.1. Specialty exam committee

The committee met with the Oregon committee on June 5. The meeting was spent sharing institutional knowledge and reviewing a subset of exam questions. The next committee meeting is scheduled for October 28 at the Cowlitz Regional Event Center in Longview, WA.

9.2. California reciprocity

Staff had communication from California's licensing manager noting their Technical Advisory Committee was reviewing the information Washington had provided.

10. Board Administrator's Report

10.1. Program Operations

Staff informed the board that the Design, Funeral & Cemetery section acquired the Collection Agency Board on June 1, 2014 and will acquire the Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors on January 1, 2015. Each board comes with staff and the section's name will change from "Design, Funeral & Cemetery" to "Regulatory Boards Section."

10.1.1. Legislative update
No business.

10.1.2. Financial report
Standard report; no action.

10.1.3. Licensing and application statistics
Packet item; no action.

10.2. Department of Licensing

Staff explained proposed enhancements to the online renewal and application software system and the need for money from each program's fund balance to support the upgrade. The board supported the proposal and the use of money from the program's fund balance.

Mr. Ernst made a MOTION to support the technology upgrade. Mr. Laprade seconded the MOTION and it passed. Mr. St. Godard abstained from the vote.

10.3. Other items

Mr. Mitchell asked staff to consider adjusting the deadline to register for the March ASBOG Fundamentals of Geology exam to allow time for students to receive their transcripts in December. The deadline is currently approximately one week before students receive their transcripts, which causes students to have to wait to take the exam until the following October.

Action Item: Staff will research the possibility of moving the registration date closer to the date ASBOG requires all registrations be submitted and exams ordered.

Action Item: Staff will draft a letter to ASBOG proposing the organization moves their registration and exam ordering deadline closer to the exam date.

11. Other Business

11.1. Action Items from this meeting

Action items were reviewed and will be added to the master action items list.

11.2. Agenda Items for next meeting

- Proposal to ASBOG to adjust the exam registration deadline
- National requirements research

11.3. Any other business

No business.

12. Adjourn Business Meeting 11:30AM

Submitted by: _____
Lorin Doyle, Administrator Date _____

Approved by: _____
Brian Beaman, Board Chair Date _____